



BOROUGH OF CHATHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR 1921..



MACKAYS LTD., CHATHAM.

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BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

To the Mayor and Corporation.

GENTLEMEN

In presenting my Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Borough during the year ending December 31st, 1921.

I desire to draw your attention to certain changes in its composition, in accordance with the Circular of the Ministry of Health issued on December 28th 1921.

The modifications consists in the omission of details respecting conditions which do not vary from year to year, and in a curtailment of the information asked for in certain years. The object is to reduce the time taken in preparation and in cost of printing.

In future the Reports will be of two kinds—Ordinary Reports of which this is the first, and Survey Reports of a full and detailed character, required at intervals of not less than five years—the Reports for 1919 and 1920 being treated as the first of the Series of Survey Reports.

It follows that the Annual Report will be more or less a tabular statement of the work of the Public Health Department during the year, a record of special action, of new developments, and a summary of Special Reports.

It is open to the Council to direct that the Report may be extended beyond these limits and that a Medical Officer of Health should discuss a special subject of importance to the health of the Area in an Annual rather than in a Special Report.

The dominant public need to-day is economy, and on that account further developments of existing services are not likely to receive sanction. The Health services of the district have been gradually increased, details of administration have been improved during the last few years, and their value is reflected in the improved conditions of the public health. The Infant Mortality in 1900 was 165 per 1,000 births, in 1920 it was 70. The General Death Rate in 1900 was 19.5 per 1,000 in 1920 it was 12.8. Not only is Mortality reduced, but the effects of Child Welfare Work, and School Medical Work are making themselves felt in the improved physique and general health of the rising generation. Defects are discovered and

remedied, and the advice and encouragement given to parents in regard to health dangers and the means of avoiding them are influencing for good the lives of thousands of growing children.

Unfortunately the progress of housing has been retarded, and owing to present circumstances it is impossible to deal with much of the insanitary property of the district in the way it ought to be dealt with.

To leave it standing is to maintain a condition prejudicial to health. The only safe and satisfactory method is demolition, but closing orders cannot well be enforced until other houses are available.

During the year Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever have been prevalent. Diphtheria which caused a large number of cases in 1920 has gradually diminished, there being slight local rises in May and September.

Epidemic Diarrhoea, usually so prevalent and fatal during hot summers, has been relatively slight, and I ascribe this largely to improved methods of feeding infants, and to the general use of dried milk.

Some of the health activities of the District are partly in the hands of the County Council, and partly the Local Authority. This increases the difficulties, leads to overlapping of work, and extra correspondence. Maternity and Child Welfare Work is carried out by the Local Authority, but the County Council supervises the Midwives.

Tuberculosis and Venereal diseases are also dealt with by the County, but necessarily much of the work is carried out by the Local Authority, which is primarily responsible for making adequate inquiry into all circumstances affecting the health of its district, and of promptly putting into effect measures to diminish the causes of disease.

My thanks are due to Mr. Coles Finch for records of rainfall, to Mr. Collard, Inspector of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children who has given valuable assistance, to the officials of the Medway Union Infirmary, with whom I am in frequent co-operation, and to the Staff of the Department whose work is worthy of praise.

I greatly value the continued support of your Council, and my thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their invariable courtesy and consideration.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

J. HOLROYDE,

F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Chatham,

March, 31st, 1922.

1.—General Statistics.

Area in Acres 4,443.298
 Population (1921) Provisional 42,665
 Number of inhabited houses (1921) 9,700 approximate,
 Number of families or separate occupiers (1921). Information
 not available.
 Rateable Value £181360
 Sum represented by a penny rate £755.

2.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.
Births	{ Legitimate	969	474	495
	{ Illegitimate	42	23	19
	Birth Rate per 1,000			23.4
	Total Deaths 541			
	Death Rate per 1,000 12.8.			
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of				
	Childbirth	7		
	From Sepsis	2		
	„ other causes	5		
Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births.				
	Legitimate 82.	Illegitimate 166.	Total 86.	
	Deaths from Measles (all ages)		none	
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		14	
	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		18	

The General Mortality has not been excessive. Amongst its causes Tuberculosis, Cancer, Heart Disease, and Diseases of the Respiratory Organs occupy a prominent place, whilst amongst the chief causes of Infantile Mortality are Premature Birth, Congenital Debility and Malformation. Of the total deaths under one year of age 44 or 50 per cent occurred during the first month of life, and of these 26 died before they were a week old.

The following table supplied by the Registrar-General shows the causes of death, etc., for each sex.

Causes of Death in Chatham M.B. 1921 (Civilians Only)		Males.	Females.
	All causes	275	266
1.	Enteric Fever	1	1
2.	Small Pox		
3.	Measles		
4.	Scarlet Fever	•	2
5.	Whooping Cough	4	10
6.	Diphtheria	9	7
7.	Influenza	3	2
8.	Encephalitis Lethargical.....	1	2
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis	1	0
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	29	28
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	7	7
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	22	23
13.	Rheumatic Fever		
14.	Diabetes	3	1
15.	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	8	14
16.	Heart Disease	34	24
17.	Arterio-Sclerosis	9	5
18.	Bronchitis	14	18
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	12	8
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	6	4
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	6	1
22.	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	14	4
23.	Appendicitis & Typhlitis	1	0
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	3	1
25.	Acute & Chronic Nephritis	8	9
26.	Puerperal Sepsis		2
27.	Other Accidents and Diseases of ... Pregnancy and Parturition...		5
28.	Congenital Debility & Malformation, Premature Birth.....	18	16
29.	Suicide	6	
30.	Other Deaths from Violence	6	4
31.	Other Defined Diseases	48	64
32.	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	2	4
	Special Causes (included above)		
	Poliomyelitis		
	Polioencephalitis		
	Deaths of infants under 1 year of age		
	Total	46	41
	Illegitimate	3	4
	Total Births	497	514
	Legitimate	474	495
	Illegitimate	23	19
	Population { For Birth Rate,	43,230	
	{ For Death Rate	42,103.	

The number of certificates of death received from the Registrar of Births and Deaths was 515, and 24 were transferred from other localities, making a total of 539.

The number returned by the Registrar General is 541.

Table showing Births, Deaths from all causes, and Deaths under 1 year of age during each month of 1921.

Month	Births	Deaths		Total	Deaths under 1 yr
		Males	Females		
January	86	22	19	41	7
February	94	35	27	62	9
March	71	21	39	60	8
April	71	17	16	33	4
May	101	16	23	39	9
June	89	21	12	33	4
July	70	20	19	39	6
August	77	12	19	31	10
September	92	29	17	46	7
October	66	19	13	32	8
November	69	26	24	50	8
December	77	26	23	49	4
Totals	963	264	251	515	84
Add Transfers	48	12	12	24	3
Totals	1011	276	263	539	87

The Deaths apportioned to each ward, and the rates of Mortality calculated on approximate populations are as follows.

Ward	No of Deaths	Rate of Mortality
St. Mary's	130	14.4
Christ Church	95	14.
Luton	103	13.9
St. Paul's	59	10.
St. Michaels	79	11.6
St. John's	75	12.1

The number of uncertified deaths was 11.
Certificates from Coroner 25.

3.—Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

DISEASE	Total cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria	176	137	16
Scarlet Fever	145	118	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	6	2	2
Puerperal Fever	3		2
Pneumonia	9		20
Encephalitis Lethargia	2		3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1		1
Malaria	1		
Tuberculosis :—			
(a) Pulmonary { M. 19 F. 27 Total 46	46		57
(b) No-Pulmonary { M. 5 F. 5 Total 10	10		14

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital				
	21	18	3	20	1	0	None

Notifications of Infectious Diseases, 1921.

AGES.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Pneumonia	Encp : Leth :	C.S.M.	Malaria	Pulm. Tuber.	Non-Pul. Tuber.
Under 1									1	
1 to 2	2	6				1				1
2 to 3	5	8	2		1					1
3 to 4	7	20								
4 to 5	16	21	1						1	
5 to 10	68	64			3		1		3	4
10 to 15	29	40							5	2
15 to 20	5	9	3		1				3	1
20 to 25	3	2			1				4	
25 to 35	7	4		3	1			1	15	
35 to 45	2	1			2				7	1
45 to 65	1	1							7	
65 upwards									1	
Totals	145	176	6	3	9	1	1	1	46	10

Deaths from Notifiable Diseases, 1921.

AGES.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargical	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis
Under 1 yr.					1				4
1 to 2					1	1			2
2 to 3	2				1				2
3 to 4	4		1		1	1			
4 to 5	1				1				
5 to 10	6				2		1	1	3
10 to 15	3				1			1	1
15 to 20			1		2			5	1
20 to 25					3			9	1
25 to 35		2		1	5			9	
35 to 45				1	2			12	
45 to 65						1		17	
65 up.								2	
Total	16	2	2	2	20	3	1	57	14

4.—Causes of Sickness.

The two most prevalent causes of sickness during 1921 were Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

Of Diphtheria there were 175 cases as against 261 during 1920, and of Scarlet Fever 145 as against 110.

Diphtheria reached its maximum in 1920, and with the exception of slight local recurrences in May and September it has gradually diminished. Respiratory affections were prevalent in the first and third quarters of the year. Bronchitis and Pneumonia caused 35 deaths in the first and 21 in the third quarter. These diseases are responsible for much invalidity and inability to work.

Amongst the general causes of invalidity are bad housing, intermittent and casual labour, and unemployment with its attendant inadequacy of food, all of which are present in the Borough.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

From the Pulmonary form there were 57 deaths.

Of these 28 or 50 per cent. were not notified, and in addition 2 were received 1 day before death

1 was	„	8 days	„
1 was	„	11 days	„
2 were	„	14 days	„
1 was	„	4 weeks	„
1 was	„	8 weeks	„

This is a very unsatisfactory state of matters, and I can only ascribe it to a reluctance on the part of Medical practitioners to inform patients of the exact nature of their malady.

Practitioners are reminded from time to time of their obligations in regard to notification, and in every case attending the Dispensary the Tuberculosis Officer informs the doctor that the case should be notified.

Failure to recognise and report the disease at an earlier stage prejudices the patient's chances of recovery, and increases the risk of infecting others.

CASES ATTENDING TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of New Cases 114

Total Attendances (Old and New Cases) 2,195

Number sent to Institutions 22.

Diagnosis—New Cases.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	56
Surgical Tuberculosis	12
Bronchitis	6
Other Diseases	6
Apparently Healthy	32
Under Observation	2

5.—Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals and Other Institutions Available for the District.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.**(a) General.**

General nursing is provided by the District Nursing Association. The Association is financed by voluntary subscribers, and by contributions from patients.

(b) For Infectious Diseases. e.g. Measles, etc.

The Health Visitors of the Local Authority undertake the home visitation of Measles, Whooping Cough and Epidemic Diarrhœa and render nursing assistance when necessary.

In times of epidemic prevalence—such as severe outbreaks of Influenza or Measles, the District Nurses have worked under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

There are no Voluntary Workers employed in nursing, nor is there any definite scheme of co-ordination or financial arrangement in which the Local Authority is concerned.

MIDWIVES.

The Public Health Authority does not employ or subsidise Midwives.

The number residing in Chatham is 8, but Midwives resident in neighbouring Boroughs also practice in Chatham.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

- I. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Public Library, Chatham. Contains three rooms—provided by Local Authority.

2. School Clinics, Town Hall, and Luton Council School.
 - (a) For Minor Ailments
 - (b) Dental Treatment
 Two rooms and waiting hall provided by Local Authority.
 - (c) Arrangements with Hospital for the operative treatment of Throat and Nose Cases, for Refraction and Chronic Diseases of the Eye, and for the X Ray Treatment of Ringworm.
 3. Tuberculosis Dispensary
 4. Venereal Diseases Clinic.
- The two latter are controlled by the County Council.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR COUNTY COUNCIL.

1. Maternity—A provisional agreement for the use of beds in Naval Maternity Home at Gillingham has been effected to come into effect when premises now in course of erection are ready for occupation.
There are 8 Maternity beds in the Medway Infirmary.
2. Fever Hospital—Used jointly by Rochester and Chatham contains 80 beds.
3. Small Pox—Joint Hospital, 24 beds.
4. General Hospital—105 beds.
The three latter are situated in Rochester.
5. Poor Law Infirmary—Chatham, 400 beds, including 8 Maternity, 36 beds for Tuberculosis, and 20 for children.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.

The accommodation is very limited, and consists of

1. Salvation Army Rescue Home with 16 beds.
2. Diocesan Home with 8 beds.
The staff is not trained, and the homes receive also girls on probation from the Police Court.
3. Medway Workhouse.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES—

- (a) For infectious cases a Motor Ambulance is provided by the Local Authority.
- (b) For non-infectious and accident cases there is a horse Ambulance kept at the Hospital, and hand Ambulances at the Police Station, Fire Station, and at two Sub-Stations.

6.—Laboratory Work.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

Specimens are forwarded to the County Council Laboratory at Maidstone. The arrangements work very satisfactorily.

The following Table shows the number of specimens sent during 1921 and the results of examination :—

	No. Forwarded	No. giving Positive Result	No. giving Negative Result
Diphtheria	295	114	181
Enteric Fever (blood)	10	7	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	117	33	84
Ringworm of Scalp ...	13	9	4

320 specimens were sent by Medical Practitioners and 115 by the Medical Officer of Health.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is kept at the Public Health Office and at the Fire Station, and is issued free. Syringes are also provided and issued on loan to practitioners.

Strength 5,000 units—packets issued 137.

INFLUENZA VACCINE.

SEVEN PACKETS ISSUED.

LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS—BYE-LAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN DISTRICT.

	Date of Operation or Confirmation
1. <i>Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act</i> 1890	20th Oct. 1902.
2. <i>Public Health Acts Amendment Act</i> 1890...	
Parts 1 2 3 and 5.	18th June 1896
3. <i>Private Street Works Act</i> 1892	30th Mar. 1897
4. <i>Public Health Acts Amendment Act</i> 1907...	
Secs. 78 79 80 81 83 84 85 and 86....	
Parts viii and ix	20th July 1908
Part ii.	
Secs. 34 35 36 37 38 43 45 45 46. 47.	} 19th April 1909
48 49 50 and 51 of Part iii.	
Part iv v vi and	
Secs. 9 93 and 95 of Part x.	

BYE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Dairies Cowsheds and Milkshops	19th Oct., 1900
Ditto	25th April, 1908
Common Lodging Houses	19th June, 1901
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures.....	26th Nov., 1903
Removal of Filth through Streets	2nd Sept., 1908
Drainage of Existing Buildings	"
Cleansing of Footways	"
Slaughterhouses	"
New Streets and Buildings	"
Nuisances	"
Regulation of Offensive Trades	5 Sept., 1912
Houses let in Lodgings or occupied by Members of more than one family	13th April, 1912
For the Prevention of Nuisances arising from Filth and Rubbish	3rd June, 1912
New Streets	9th April, 1913
Hours for Slaughtering in Slaughterhouses.....	10th Aug. 1914
Removal of House Refuse	8th June, 1915
Sanitary Conveniences	7th Feb., 1917
Knackers Yards	12th Dec., 1919

7.—Sanitary Administration.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS

These Acts are administered by the County Police.

Under the Food and Drugs Act—135 samples were taken and analysed.

Proceedings were instituted in two cases as follows—

Selling Milk which contained 5.3 per cent. added water—Fined
£25 and £3 Costs.

Selling Milk which contained 32.9 per cent. added water—
Fined £10 and £2 2s. Costs.

No action was taken under Milk and Cream Regulations.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

The Inspector attends the Cattle Market each week—notes animals purchased by Chatham butchers, and inspects after slaughter

Cattle and Pigs over £30 and £8 are insured by Butchers and Farmers, and the Traders ask for inspection in a large number of cases where there is any suspicion.

VACCINATION.

In the Rochester and Chatham Registration District the number vaccinated was 780. Objections 552.

SCAVENGING.

The system previously described is continued, but it has been decided to provide 2 Motor Vans in place of the present heavy carts. Instead of being conveyed to a tip, land has been acquired to which the refuse will be carted. The ground will be trenched and the refuse buried.

The work of emptying cesspools has been greatly improved by the provision of additional tractors, and by the use of mechanical exhaust instead of hand pumping. The cesspools are emptied much more quickly and effectively, and the contents are removed with a minimum of nuisance.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT) 1919

	Baits Laid	4745
	Varnish Boards laid	79
Rats caught and destroyed		
	In dwelling houses	232
	Shops, Stores, etc. ...	1173
	Refuse tips	3927
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	5332

SPECIAL REPORTS TO COUNCIL.

Houses let in lodgings, and extension of existing Bye Laws.

Venereal Diseases

Provision of Ambulance

Veterinary Inspection of Cows

Census 1921.

Procedure in regard to Insanitary Property.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

Total Births Notified	952
By Midwives	769
By Doctors	155
Medway Infirmary	28
Number of Still Births	39
Number of mothers visited ...	921
Total visits paid	7289

Removed to other localities ...	41
Number of breast-fed infants	431
Number of partly breast-fed	260
Number of bottle fed	214
Continuation cases 1 to 5 years—50	
Condition of houses—	
Clean	547
Dirty	87
Not entirely satisfactory	287
Number of working mothers.....	68
Occupations —	
Charwomen	22
Needlework	8
Hawkers	11
Shops	18
Factories	4
Laundry	4
Field Worker	1
Number of expectant mothers	40
Visits paid	79

OTHER WORK CARRIED OUT BY HEALTH VISITORS.

Visits were paid and help given in cases of
 Epidemic Diarrhœa
 Puerperal Fever
 Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
 Inspections of homes of foster parents.
 Inquiries into still births.
 Special attention to illegitimate children.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

New cases	387
Infants	370
Expectant mothers	17
Total attendances 2485.	
Number breast fed	113
Number partly do.....	157
Number bottle fed	90
Cases referred to Hospital and treated 35.	

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN'S) ORDER, 1919

DRIED MILK.

Number receiving free	72
Number receiving half-price ...	15

METHOD

Each applicant fills in a Schedule of particulars—signed by husband and wife.

Applications are submitted to a Sub. Committee consisting of the Chairman of Child Welfare Committee, myself and the Financial Officer of the Council. Grants are made according to scale, and great care is exercised to avoid imposition, and overlapping with other sources of Charity.

MATERNITY HOME.

Arrangements have been effected with the Royal Naval Benevolent Society for the admission of civilian cases into the Home now being erected in Gillingham.

STATEMENT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

DRAINAGE WORK.

During the year 52 houses have been erected by the Council, and in addition to these the drains have been tested at the following premises :—

Plan No.	3652	New House Maidstone Road
	3654	New House Maidstone Road
	3651	New House Maidstone Road
	3652	New House Maidstone Road
	3653	New House Maidstone Road
	3686	New House Maidstone Road
	3635	New House Maidstone Road
	3661	New House Maidstone Road
	3701 (4)	New House Maidstone Road
	3659 (2)	New House Ewart Road
	3706 (2)	New House Ewart Road
	3685	New House Walderslade
	3691	New House Walderslade
	3662	New House Walderslade
	3699	New House Walderslade
	3679	New House Bridgewood

3688 (2)	New House Police Quarters
3668 (2)	New House Police Quarters
3692	New House Hook Road
3650	New House Lordswood Lane

NEW ADDITIONS TO OLD PROPERTY.

3682	" Royal Exchange," High Street
3674	Messrs. Eastmans, Ltd.

CESSPOOL WORK.

During the year 4,645 applications were made, 9,072 loads of liquid sewage and 2,738 loads of night soil were removed.

Cesspool applications each month during the year—

January	629	July	300
February	412	August	291
March	556	September	247
April	552	October	265
May	507	November	235
June	365	December	286
Choked drains cleared		231	

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Number on Register	.....	11
Number of visits made	.....	69
Notices served to cleanse	.....	3
Notices served to repair	.....	4

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Number on Register	.....	3
Number of visits made	.....	15
Notices served to Cleanse	.....	8
Notices served to repair	.....	17

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

(1) Gut Scraper	.....	1
(2) Fish Fryers Businesses	.....	20
(3) Marine Store Dealers	.....	5
Number of visits made	.....	79
Notices served to cleanse	.....	4
Notices served to repair	.....	1

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of Registered Slaughter Houses	11
Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses ...	2
Number of visits made	806
Notices served to cleanse	12

UN SOUND FOOD SEIZED,

Carcases of Mutton	44
--------------------------	----

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED.

Carcases of Beef	13
Forequarters of Beef	2
Carcases of Mutton	2
Sets of Lungs	18
Liver, Bovine	832 lbs.
Kidneys	502 „
Bacon	106 „
Rabbits	125 „
Butter	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ „
Cheese	80 „
Beef	372 „
Suet	309 „
Hake	42 „
Cocoa Nut	10 „
Kippers	56 boxes
Herrings	3 „
Crabs	1 box
Mackerel	6 stone
Mixed Fish	12 „
Plaice	1 trunk
Fresh Haddock	9 trunks
Cod	4 „
Corn Beef (6lb tins)	108 tins
Milk Condensed	306 „
Tomatoes	109 „
Salmon	24 „
Cray Fish	1 tin
Sardines	5 tins
Meat Paste	1 tin
Fruit	22 tins
Sausages	6 „
Essence	1 tin
Beans	1 „
Eggs smashed	1 case

Marmalade	2 jars
Jam	28 „
Meat Pies	6 „
Soup Packets	11 packets
Baking Powder	4 „
Pickles	14 bottles
Sauce	23 „
Vinegar	1 bottle
Bovril	1 „
Coffee	1 „
Skate	1 kit
Peas (garden)	118 bags

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases removed to Hospital :—

(a) Diphtheria	137
(b) Scarlet Fever	118
(c) Enteric Fever	2
(d) Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0
Number of Loads of Bedding Disinfected	359
Number of Library Books Disinfected	48
Work Prohibited in the Homes of Outworkers	10

MORTUARY.

Bodies removed to Mortuary :—

(a) Men	8
(b) Women	4
(c) Children	6
Post Mortems	13
Buried at expense of Parish	4
Suicides	2
Accidents	2

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Cowsheds in use	17
Number of Registered Cowkeepers	11
Number of Registered Milkshops	22
Number of visits made to Cowsheds	37
Number of visits made to Milkshops	98
Notices served to cleanse	12
Notices to repair	0

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

During 1921 one case of suspected Swine Fever was reported but was not confirmed by the Board.

Notices served :—

Form A Article 2 and 19	1
Form B Article 4 and 19	1
Form C Article 4	1

BAKEHOUSES.

Number of Bakehouses	
Workshops Bakehouses	9
of these 5 are underground	
Factory Bakehouses	5
Number of Visits made	54
Number of Notices served to Limewash	9
Number of Notices served to repair	0

VISITS.

Houses Inspected	534
Common Lodging Houses	69
Houses Let in Lodgings	215
Off nsive Trades	79
Slaughter Houses	806
Bakehouses	54
Cowsheds and Milkshops	135
Piggeries	12
Public Conveniences	64
Cesspool Work	159
Drainage Work	586
Court and Alleys	76
Complaints and Revisits	870
Ice Cream Shops	63
Restaurants	46
Workshops	188
Infectious Diseases	402
Outworkers	277
Stables	88
Tubercular Cases	38
Overcrowding	7
Wagons at Work	219
Miscellaneous	527

STATUTORY AND OTHER NOTICES SERVED.

Notices Served	813
Letters written	663
Reminder Notices	89

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES ABATED.

Accumulation of Manure Removed	11
Bell Traps removed	19
Broken Pans removed	43
Broken Gullies removed	24
Concrete Yards repaired	43
Unpaved Yards paved	8
Ceilings repaired	78
Cesspools enlarged	74
Cesspools, new, constructed	12
Coppers repaired	102
Closet structures repaired	32
Closets, new, built	42
Drains repaired	33
Drains ventilated	17
Doors and Frames repaired	21
Draibs to old buildings relayed.....	26
Flushing Cisterns repaired	26
Floors repaired	110
Fire Grates repaired	135
Flues repaired	20
Gutters and Downpipes repaired	64
Houses with Privies converted to the Water Carriage System	69
Interior of Houses cleansed	340
Inspection Pits provided to Drains	6
Inspection Pits, broken covers replaced	2
Keeping of Animals in unfit state	10
Manure Pits provided	3
New Locks to Doors provided	11
Overcrowding abated	7
Privies filled in	69
Privies repaired	24
Roofs repaired	144
Sash Cords repaired	93
Stairs repaired	11
Sash fasteners	10
Ventilation provided under floors.....	3
Walls repaired	128
Wash Houses repaired	11
Wash Houses rebuilt	3

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The approximate number of each :—

(a) Closets with flush	5363
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(b) Closets without flush	2548
(c) Open Privies	1489
(d) Pail Closets	48

W. HUGHES

Sanitary Inspector.

8—Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health	whole time
Chief Sanitary Inspector	„
2 Assistant Inspectors	„
1 ditto and Chief Clerk	„
1 Clerk	„
2 Health Visitors	„
1 ditto	two-thirds time
acts as Assistant School Nurse.	

The Chief Inspector and one Assistant are Certificated Meat Inspectors.

One Health Visitor is C.M.B. and H.V.'s Certificates

One Health Visitor is C.M.B. and Trained Nurse

One Health Visitor is C.M.B. part Trained Nurse

Veterinary Surgeon—part time

(a) Plans approved during year	37
No. of Houses completed	13
„ „ in course of erection	16
„ „ not commenced	8
(b) Part of Municipal Housing Scheme	
Completed	52

9—Housing.

I. UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

Inspection :—

- (1) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 534
- (2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 0

(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	60

II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of Defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	414
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III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. *Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing and Town Planning etc., Act, 1919.*

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	60
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) by owners	30
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close...	none

B. *Proceeding under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	119
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) by owners	119
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	none

C. *Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.*

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.....	1
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- | | |
|--|------|
| (2) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 1 |
| (3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Dwelling Houses having been rendered fit | none |
| (4) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 1 |
| (5) Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 1 |

In order to secure more satisfactory co-operation between owner and tenant, the following procedure has been approved and adopted by the Council.

1. Notice to owner.
2. On completion of the work a Notice to the occupier as follows :—

“ Notice is hereby given that the owner has had the house numbered.....recently repaired, renovated and cleansed. It is the *duty* of the occupier to keep the house and premises generally in a clean and sanitary condition.

Any occupier who fails, or allows a sub-tenant to neglect his or her rooms so that they get into a dirty state, will be prosecuted under the provisions of the Public Health Acts.”

Signed

.....*Town Clerk.*
*M.O.H.*

3. If the tenant neglects his obligations a Notice will be issued before proceedings are taken.
 4. A Register of dirty and neglectful tenants will be compiled.
- Certain conditions are essential before a house can be called

fit. They include

- (a) Freedom from damp
- (b) Proper lighting and ventilation
- (c) Adequate sanitary conveniences and a sink
- (d) Good general repair
- (e) The water supply should be adequate and easy of access
- (f) There should be suitable washing accommodation
- (g) Provision for food storage
- (g) Facilities for preparing and cooking food,

An unclean house is often due to its dilapidated condition and the absence of suitable facilities, which it is the duty of an owner to remedy and provide.

Given these conditions it is not unreasonable to expect the co-operation of the occupier.

A weak point in house management is the system of rent collecting. The collector takes as little trouble as possible, and the supervision of property in many cases begins and ends at the door. When tenants ask for repairs they are promised, but the promise is rarely fulfilled.

Owners should remember that the prompt repair of minor defects is a preventive of future large expenditure.

The advantage of better supervision will be :—

1. The early discovery and repair of defects
2. An encouragement to owners to seek the assistance of the Sanitary Authority for unsatisfactory tenants.
3. Tenants of known bad character will find it increasingly difficult to secure houses, and the pressure put on them will tend to make them more careful.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

BOROUGH OF CHATHAM.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	21	0	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ..	188	3	
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	33	0	
Total	242	3	

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	No. of Defects.			Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of cleanliness	3	3		
Want of ventilation	1	1		
Overcrowding	0	0		
Want of Drainage of floors	0	0		
Other Nuisances	1	1		
Sanitary Accommodation { insufficient	0	0		
{ unsuitable or defective	0	0		
{ not separate for sexes	0	0		
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse ..	0	0		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses	0	0		
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Past 3 of this Report)	0	0		
Total	5	5		

3.—Homework.

Wearing Apparel— 1) making, &c.	Sending twice in the year.						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists	Outwork in Unwhole- some Premises			Outwork in infected premises	
	Sending twice in the year.			Sending once in the year.								
	Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen.	Lists.	Contractors.	Workmen.		Instances	Notices Served	Instances.	Orders made.	
	7	0	632	0	0	0	5	2	2	10	10	
Total ..	7	0	632	0	0	0	5	2	2	10	10	

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.								Number.
Tenement Workshops ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Workshop Bakehouses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Domestic Workshops ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Laundries (Workshops) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other Workshops ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
Total number of Workshops on Register ..								163

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts ..	0
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector ..	2
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ..	2
Other ..	0
Underground Bakehouses :—	
Certificates granted during the year ...	0
In use at the end of the year ..	4

WATER SUPPLY.

Chemical Analysis is in close agreement with previous samples ; in spite of the prolonged drought. The water is very free from organic matter.

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

This is also very satisfactory. There is a complete absence of organisms of the Cole Group. Four samples were submitted from different parts of the district.

RAINFALL DURING 1921.

Taken at Luton Waterworks by Mr. Coles Finch.

January	1.52 inches
February .....	.72 "
March	1.24 "
April	1.57 "
May	1.47 "
June .....	.20 "
July .....	.44 "
August .....	.60 "
September .....	.95 "
October .....	.83 "
November	1.70 "
December	1.11 "
<hr/>	
Total	12.29 "

